

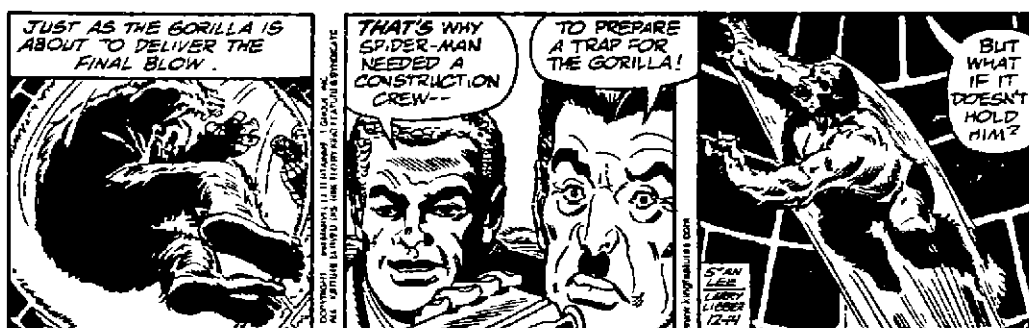
BLONDIE



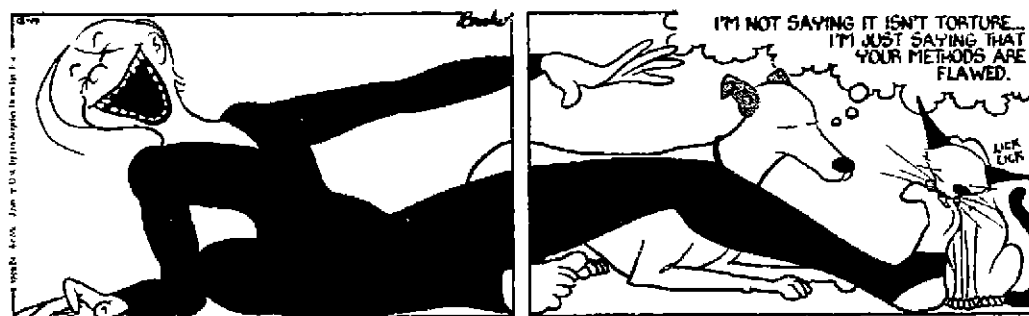
SALLY FORTH



THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN



9 CHICKWEED LANE



ANDY CAPP



ROSE IS ROSE



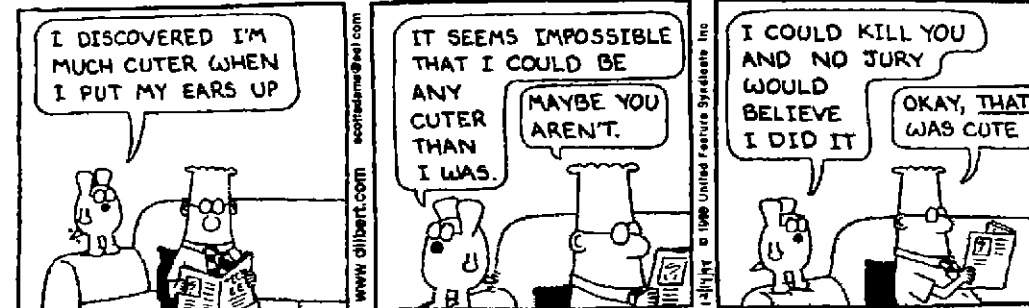
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM



DILBERT



DENNIS THE MENACE



FAMILY CIRCUS



RHYMES WITH ORANGE



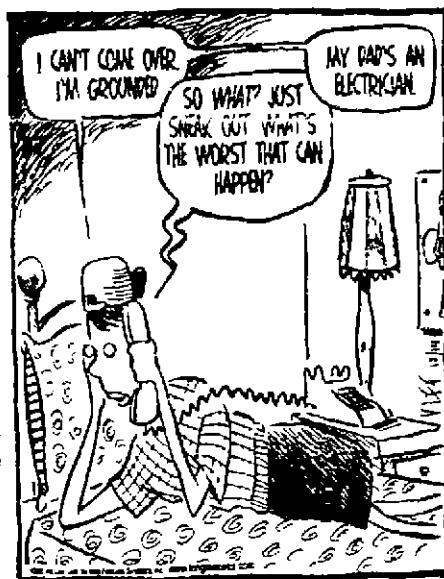
RALPH



Today's Birthdays

Jazz musician Clark Terry is 78
'60 Minutes' executive producer Don Hewitt is 76
Actor-playwright George Furth is 66
Actor Hal Williams is 60
Actress Patty Duke is 52
Pop singer Joyce Vincent-Wilson (Tony Orlando and Dawn) is 52
Entertainment executive Michael Oltz is 52
Actress Dee Wallace Stone is 50
Rock musician Cliff Williams (AC/DC) is 49.

I NEED HELP



SCRABBLE

SCRABBLE puzzle grid and instructions. The grid contains letters G, E, E, R, P, U, I, P, M, L, A, I, E, N, G, T, A, E, S, O, U, M, I, E, P, O, R, R. The instructions state: 'Make a 2 to 7 letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word, using scoring directions at right. 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blanks" used as any letter have no point value. All words are in The Official Scrabble Players Dictionary (Merrill-Webster) and OSW Official Scrabble Words (Chambers). JUDD'S SOLUTION TOMORROW 12-14-98. © 1998 United Feature Syndicate, Inc.'

HOROSCOPE

For Tuesday, Dec. 15, 1998
ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Make sure that you put your energy to good use, rather than getting immersed in other people's dramas.
TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Don't allow a flash of jealousy do irreparable damage.
GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Plan for the outcome that you truly desire, and you can't go astray.
CANCER (June 21 to July 22) While it might currently be hard to see the light at the end of the tunnel, rest assured that it's close at hand.
LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22) When it comes to an intimate relationship, the best thing you can do is take matters one step at a time.
VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22) Having fun with someone you love is the ideal tonic for your discouraged soul.
LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) A lack of energy and enthusiasm plagues everything that you do.
SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Sometimes you don't realize change is necessary until it's forced upon you.
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Don't let minor obstacles interfere with the pursuit of your dreams.
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19) Someone desperately needs your help, but is too shy to ask. Surprise them by casually making an offer.
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18) Don't turn your nose up at an offer that was made in all sincerity.
PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20) Finally you are well positioned to let events take their own course.

WORD SLEUTH

Things that squeak

VEAWTPLIEBXUQNJ
GDZSWTSQNRKFEHD
AXURGPTFEVLGMJG
DAXVSNASNONEQNK
IFDAXNIOIVVETQ
OEMJHMRRHCFCHA
YWSUARSOPHPNLW
JHFUDYBZOSXKVTR
QOMKOHFXDDCDBZ
YWVTMTKLAHCERQO
NLKIHFDCSAZDBXW

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.
Monday's unlisted clue hint: SM-ALL RODENT
A mass Door Saxophone Violin
Bedsprings Fan Shoe Voice
Chair Floors Stairs Wheel
Deck Hinge Toys
© 1998 King Features, Inc. 12/14
For solution, see Classified.

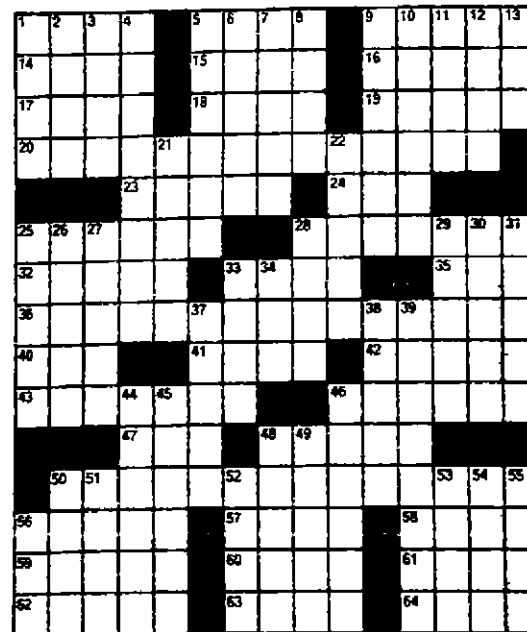
ACES

By Bobby Wolff
Dummy's club 10 covered West's nine, and South took East's queen with his ace. He crossed to dummy's heart ace to run the trump queen, losing it to West's king. West continued with his club eight to trap dummy's jack, and South had to lose two club tricks. That totaled three tricks for the defense, and with the diamond ace still at large, South had to concede a one-trick set. Should South have delayed the trump finesse and knocked out the diamond ace instead? That would not have helped him. West would have won and continued his attack in clubs, waiting for the setting trick in spades. The true test of South's patience came at trick one. After West's obvious "top-of-nothing" lead marked East with the king and queen, South should have neutralized the attack by refusing to win the first trick. After that duck, East would have to find a shift. His safest shift would be a trump, but South would have the counter to that move. Instead of finessing, he would win his ace and knock out West's diamond ace. With dummy's diamonds available for discards, this approach limits the defenders to only a trump, a club and a diamond, and South would have his 10 winners.

N.Y. TIMES CROSSWORD

No. 1102

ACROSS
1 Castle protection
5 Watch chains
9 Moby-Dick for one
14 Tunes Fitzgerald
15 Nabisco cookie
16 Sponsorship
17 Coal stratum
18 True
19 Affixes in a scrapbook, say
20 Willie Mays at the Y?
23 Traffic arteries
24 Comed cry
25 Olympic awards
28 Study of verse
32 Standing
33 Horse color
35 Slice
36 Crossword by Joe DiMaggio, e.g.?
40 Somme summer
41 TV's Nick at
42 NBC newsmen Roger
43 She played the pretty woman in "Pretty Woman"
45 Not mono
47 Former Midwest mits
48 Was inquisitive
50 Ken Griffey Jr. at 100?
56 Disappearing phone features
57 Final notice
58 Part of a marching band
59 Wally's pal in "Leave It to Beaver"
60 Post-Christmas event
61 Dutch cheese
62 Hippie attire
63 Ogles
64 Lairs



ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

TAMALES MATTRED
ARIDITY ANCHOVY
COLONEL ETERNAL
KIMART LOW LINDA
SANE CAKE ALIEN
UTES RDIS NERS
PIS QUIETUDE
CECUM PERES
LABRADOR SUE
DEFER EDEN PCPS
ILLAT LISA RAES
MAINE ETC TERRA
MINORCA ECONOMY
ENGULFS NEBULAE
RESTYLE DEEPEND

29 Less welcoming
30 pie (sweetheart)
31 French pen
33 Reformer Jacob
34 It's west of Que
37 nous (confidentially)
38 Citer
39 Like a first draft
44 Geometer of 300 B.C.
45 Workers rewards
46 Ice hockey equipment
48 Cornered
49 Photog's request
50 Helper
51 Zippo
52 Sniffer
53 Classic art subject
54 Israeli's Abba
55 Butts
56 Society girl
Answers to any three clues in this puzzle are available by touch tone phone 1-900-420-5656 (95c per minute). Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years: 1-888-7 ACROSS